

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT ON BILL NO. **S.557, as Amended**

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TO:	The Honorable Harry F. Cato, Chairman, House Labor, Commerce and Industry Committee		
FROM:	Office of State Budget, Budget and Control Board		
ANALYSTS:	Harry Bell, Tricia Tangney		
DATE:	May 19, 2005	SBD:	2005488

AUTHOR:	Senator Richardson	PRIMARY CODE CITE:	42-1-500
SUBJECT:	Worker's Compensation Benefits For Prisoners		

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT ON GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES:

\$0 (No additional expenditures or savings are expected)

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT ON FEDERAL & OTHER FUND EXPENDITURES:

\$0 (No additional expenditures or savings are expected)

BILL SUMMARY:

Senate Bill 557, as amended, authorizes a municipality to provide worker's compensation benefits to prisoners working for the municipality. Under the Bill, as amended, when a county or municipality elects to cover its prisoners with workers' compensation benefits, the coverage also includes those prisoners who have been sentenced to the Department of Corrections and who are assigned to a county or municipality, and those prisoners who have been sentenced to the Department of Corrections and who are used for public service work or related activities while being supervised by the county or municipality.

EXPLANATION OF IMPACT:

The State Accident Fund (SAF) reports this Bill will have no impact on the General Fund of the State, or on Federal and/or Other Funds. The SAF estimates the cost to the employers in annual premiums for prisoners covered under this Bill would range from \$75 to \$217 annually; and average about \$115 annually.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT IMPACT:

The impact on local governments depends on if they elect to provide coverage for prisoners in their custody or under their supervision. Three localities indicated enactment would result in little or no impact on expenditures. Two others indicated a cost but could not provide an estimate. Three local governments estimated additional cost at between \$3,000 and \$48,000 annually.

SPECIAL NOTES:

None.

Approved by:



Don Addy
Assistant Director, Office of State Budget